

(2) to provide greater opportunities to visitors, researchers, and surrounding communities to understand and appreciate the natural environment of Mesa Verde and the contributions of the ancient Puebloan culture to the region by providing the land required to construct a contemporary museum collections storage facility and visitor orientation center.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **MAP.**—The term “map” means the map entitled “Mesa Verde National Park Proposed Boundary Adjustment”, numbered 307/80,180, and dated March 1, 2007.

(2) **PARK.**—The term “Park” means the Mesa Verde National Park in the State of Colorado.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK.

(a) **ACQUISITION OF LAND.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may acquire the land or an interest in the land described in subsection (b) for addition to the Park.

(2) **MEANS.**—An acquisition of land under paragraph (1) may be made by donation, purchase from a willing seller with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(b) **DESCRIPTION OF LAND.**—The land referred to in subsection (a)(1) is the approximately 360 acres of land adjacent to the Park, as generally depicted on the map.

(c) **AVAILABILITY OF MAP.**—The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(d) **BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.**—The boundary of the Park shall be revised to reflect the acquisition of the land under subsection (a).

(e) **ADMINISTRATION.**—The Secretary shall administer any land or interest in land acquired under subsection (a)(1) as part of the Park in accordance with the laws (including regulations) applicable to the Park.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 783 authorizes a boundary expansion at Mesa Verde National Park in southwestern Colorado of approximately 362 acres. Mesa Verde National Park, established in 1906, contains the most extensive concentration of cliff-dwellings in the United States.

H.R. 783 authorizes the acquisition of two parcels of the land that border the park. One parcel is in full view of the park's entrance road and contains important archaeological sites, an ancient forest, and the largest known population of a globally imperiled plant. This parcel is currently zoned for a subdivision, but the owners would prefer to protect the property through inclusion in the park.

The second parcel is currently owned by a park partner, the Mesa Verde Foundation.

□ 1445

The foundation intends to donate the parcel to the park for the development of a visitor information center and museum collection facility but cannot do so until the park boundary is expanded.

Mr. Speaker, the administration has testified in support of this legislation, the Natural Resources Committee approved the legislation with a minor amendment by unanimous consent.

I want to acknowledge, at this point, the hard work of the bill's sponsor, Representative JOHN SALAZAR, in bringing this important legislation forward. We support this bill and urge its adoption by the House today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, once again, I think my friend from Arizona has adequately explained the bill. We support it and I have no objections, and even though it's unusual here in Congress to yield back any time, we do so yield back our time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, Representative JOHN SALAZAR.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I first want to thank Chairman GRIJALVA for assistance in moving this important piece of legislation forward.

I introduced H.R. 783, along with my friend and colleague MARK UDALL from Colorado, to expand the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park. Mesa Verde National Park protects the most notable and best-preserved cliff dwellings in this country. The park is also vital to the economy of southwest Colorado.

Established by Congress in June 1906, Mesa Verde National Park was the first cultural park to be set aside in the National Park System.

Over 1,400 years ago, the Pueblos settled at Mesa Verde where they built elaborate stone communities in the protected alcoves of the canyon, calling it home for over 700 years.

When President Teddy Roosevelt signed the law establishing Mesa Verde, he claimed that it was to “preserve the works of man.”

The establishment of Mesa Verde set off intense public interest in preserving other such sites in the American southwest and nationwide. Today, the towns of Cortez and Mancos, in Montezuma County, Colorado, rely heavily on tourism from Mesa Verde National Park.

H.R. 783 authorizes the National Park Service to acquire two critically important plots at the gateway to Mesa Verde National Park. One is a 324-acre tract of private land to be acquired from the Henneman family. I want to credit the Henneman family, as they remained steadfast in their termination to see the property included in this park, and I'd like to thank them for their dedication.

The second plot of land is a 38-acre tract to be donated to the National

Park Service by the Mesa Verde Foundation. With passage of H.R. 783, the National Park Service will have the authority to accept the generous donation of this parcel from the foundation.

In keeping with the longstanding tradition of preserving the resources and cultural heritage at Mesa Verde National Park, H.R. 783 will greatly enhance the visitor experience at Mesa Verde for future generations of Americans.

I urge the House to adopt this important piece of legislation, and I urge my colleagues to someday come out and visit Mesa Verde National Park.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 783, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2094) to provide for certain administrative and support services for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2094

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

Section 8162 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2000 (Public Law 106-79; 113 Stat. 1274) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (j) and inserting the following:

“(j) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) POWERS.—The Commission may—

“(i) make such expenditures for services and materials for the purpose of carrying out this section as the Commission considers advisable from funds appropriated or received as gifts for that purpose;

“(ii) solicit and accept contributions to be used in carrying out this section or to be used in connection with the construction or other expenses of the memorial;

“(iii) hold hearings and enter into contracts;

“(iv) enter into contracts for specialized or professional services as necessary to carry out this section; and

“(v) take such actions as are necessary to carry out this section.

“(B) SPECIALIZED OR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.—Services under subparagraph (A)(iv) may be—

“(i) obtained without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, including section 3109 of that title; and

“(ii) may be paid without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, including chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title.

“(2) GIFTS OF PROPERTY.—The Commission may accept gifts of real or personal property to be used in carrying out this section, including to be used in connection with the construction or other expenses of the memorial.

“(3) FEDERAL COOPERATION.—At the request of the Commission, a Federal department or agency may provide any information or other assistance to the Commission that the head of the Federal department or agency determines to be appropriate.

“(4) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If authorized by the Commission, any member or agent of the Commission may take any action that the Commission is authorized to take under this section.

“(B) ARCHITECT.—The Commission may appoint an architect as an agent of the Commission to—

“(i) represent the Commission on various governmental source selection and planning boards on the selection of the firms that will design and construct the memorial; and

“(ii) perform other duties as designated by the Chairperson of the Commission.

“(C) TREATMENT.—An authorized member or agent of the Commission (including an individual appointed under subparagraph (B)) providing services to the Commission shall be considered an employee of the Federal Government in the performance of those services for the purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims.

“(5) TRAVEL.—Each member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission.”;

(2) by redesignating subsection (o) as subsection (q); and

(3) by adding after subsection (n) the following:

“(o) STAFF AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—

“(1) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—There shall be an Executive Director appointed by the Commission to be paid at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule.

“(2) STAFF.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The staff of the Commission may be appointed and terminated without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that an individual appointed under this paragraph may not receive pay in excess of the maximum rate of basic pay for GS-15 of the General Schedule.

“(B) SENIOR STAFF.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), not more than 3 staff employees of the Commission (in addition to the Executive Director) may be paid at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule.

“(3) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—On request of the Commission, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail any of the personnel of the department or agency to the Commission to assist the Commission to carry out its duties under this section.

“(4) FEDERAL SUPPORT.—The Commission shall obtain administrative and support services from the General Services Administration on a reimbursable basis. The Commission may use all contracts, schedules, and acquisition vehicles allowed to external clients through the General Services Administration.

“(5) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Commission may enter into cooperative agreements with Federal agencies, State, local, tribal and international governments, and private interests and organizations which will further the goals and purposes of this section.

“(6) TEMPORARY, INTERMITTENT, AND PART-TIME SERVICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may obtain temporary, intermittent, and part-time services under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, at rates not to exceed the maximum annual rate of basic pay payable under section 5376 of that title.

“(B) NON-APPLICABILITY TO CERTAIN SERVICES.—This paragraph shall not apply to services under subsection (j)(1)(A)(iv).

“(7) VOLUNTEER SERVICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Commission may accept and utilize the services of volunteers serving without compensation.

“(B) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Commission may reimburse such volunteers for local travel and office supplies, and for other travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

“(C) LIABILITY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), a volunteer described in subparagraph (A) shall be considered to be a volunteer for purposes of the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 14501 et seq.).

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—Section 4(d) of the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 14503(d)) shall not apply for purposes of a claim against a volunteer described in subparagraph (A).

“(p) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as necessary to carry out this section.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, there's no doubt that Dwight Eisenhower played a significant role in American history. His service as a military leader, both during war and in peacetime, as our Nation's 34th President and as a statesman and a scholar are deserving of a memorial here in our Nation's capital.

Plans to establish such a memorial, a site across the street from the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, are well underway. The commission established to oversee the memorial is now developing a design concept. Once the design is approved, the commission will oversee construction of the memorial.

H.R. 2094, sponsored by our colleague from Kansas, Representative DENNIS MOORE, makes technical changes to the staff organization and administrative authority of the commission. These changes are necessary as the commission transitions from the planning phase to the construction phase.

Representative MOORE has worked very hard in this very difficult process to help get this memorial established.

Thanks to his efforts, and those of the commission, future visitors to Washington will come away with a better understanding of President Eisenhower's place in American history.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I believe the bill has been properly explained.

I would like to add a personal touch as a Member of Congress from Texas. We are proud that a Texan like Dwight Eisenhower is being honored. Not many people are aware, since he grew up in Kansas, that he was born in Denison, Texas, but there was so much about this great man to be admired. It is a wonderful tribute, and of course, as chairman of the National Parks Subcommittee has indicated, this is not the beginning of the process. This is continuing the ongoing process to make this a reality.

So we are very pleased that it's occurring. Of course, from a personal standpoint, I like the fact that he was a Republican and especially liked his hairline, but especially what he did for this Nation and shoring us up, protecting us in World War II, guiding this Nation as its President. This is a wonderful tribute, and I appreciate the work of the chairman in bringing this about.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, let me indicate at this time that Representative MOORE, the sponsor of the legislation, is in his district and will have a statement to submit for the RECORD.

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill that I sponsored with Representatives JERRY MORAN, TODD TIAHRT, NANCY BOYDA, LEONARD BOSWELL, and MAC THORNBERRY. As an Executive Committee member of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, I know that this legislation is important to our continuing efforts to establish a national, permanent memorial to President Eisenhower. H.R. 2094 would make important amendments to the statute establishing the Eisenhower Memorial Commission, so that it can more effectively discharge its duties.

Congress created the Eisenhower Memorial Commission in 1999 and charged the Commission with establishing a national memorial to Dwight David Eisenhower to honor his memory and commemorate his contributions to the Nation. The Commission is completely bipartisan, consisting of four Senators, four Representatives, and four private citizens. The Commission keeps an office in Washington, D.C., with four full-time staff, including an Executive Director and Executive Architect.

Since determining a preferred site in June 2005, the Commission has worked tirelessly to speed the progress of the memorialization. In September 2006, only fifteen months later, the Commission received final site approval from the National Capital Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts. The National Eisenhower Memorial will be located across the street from the National Air and Space Museum at the intersection of Maryland and Independence Avenues, SW. The site is surrounded by institutions like either created or

profoundly influenced, including the Department of Education.

The Commission is now engaged in Pre-Design Programming, a concerted effort to determine what the memorial should be. Eisenhower family members, Eisenhower contemporaries, historians, Kansans, and many others have been interviewed on their vision for the memorial. A voluntary online questionnaire is available to the public. Although there are many diverse opinions on Ike's greatest achievement and the appropriate focus for his memorial, all agree that Eisenhower is, as Michael Korda presents in his new biography, "an American hero."

I am particularly proud to claim one of the greatest 20th-century Americans as a fellow Kansan. He ranks as one of the preeminent figures in the global history of the 20th century. Dwight Eisenhower spent his entire life in public service. His most well-known contributions include serving as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in World War II and as 34th President of the United States, but Eisenhower also served as the first commander of NATO and as President of Columbia University. Dramatic changes occurred in America during his lifetime, many of which he participated in and influenced through his extraordinary leadership as President. Although Ike grew up before automobiles existed, he created the Interstate Highway System and took America into space. He created NASA, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and the Federal Aviation Administration. He added Hawaii and Alaska to the United States and ended the Korean War. President Eisenhower desegregated the District of Columbia and sent federal troops into Little Rock, Arkansas, to enforce school integration. He defused international crises and inaugurated the national security policies that guided the nation for the next three decades, leading to the peaceful end of the Cold War. A career soldier, Eisenhower championed peace, freedom, justice and security, and as President he stressed the interdependence of those goals. He spent a lifetime fulfilling his duty to his country, always remembering to ask what's best for America.

The development of the Pre-Design Program will produce three books to serve as an information packet for potential designers and the eventual design team for the memorial. The reasons for building a memorial to Eisenhower are only one part of the challenge set out in the Pre-Design Program. Technical considerations and guidance from the National Park Service are also included. Issues from preserving the historic view to the U.S. Capitol to providing a National Park Service Ranger station at the site are presented. This stage is the last major step prior to procuring a design team.

While the Eisenhower Memorial Commission has so far been able to efficiently manage the memorialization process, the tasks involved in design and construction require revised administrative and operational authority. H.R. 2094 provides the needed revisions and will enable the Commission to work more efficiently and effectively during design and construction when quick turnaround times are vital and daily decisions must be made. The authority provided in this legislation is based on the authority given to temporary commissions in existence for up to three years. The Eisenhower Memorial Commission has similar

needs, but exists for no set time period. The Commission will exist until the completion of the memorial.

For example, H.R. 2094 will enable the Commission to hire temporary federal employees instead of contract consultants, simplifying administration of staffing and covering the liability of its employees. H.R. 2094 will also provide for the Executive Architect to represent the Commission on the panels that will select the design team for the memorial. As currently written, the Commission's legislation prohibits its staff or members from participating in the determination of the design team.

H.R. 2094 will enable the Commission to continue working not only to ensure that the National Eisenhower Memorial is an inspiration to future generations, but also to ensure that the memorialization process is an example of responsible public work. I urge my colleagues to support passage of this measure today and I thank the leadership of the House Natural Resources Committee and of the House, as a whole, for bringing this bill before us today.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2094, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON, PUD CONVEYANCE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 523) to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public land located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the Wells Hydroelectric Project of Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, to the utility district, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 523

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Douglas County, Washington, PUD Conveyance Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **PUBLIC LAND.**—The term "public land" means the approximately 622 acres of Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management and identified for conveyance on the map prepared by the Bureau of Land Management entitled "Douglas County Public Utility District Proposal" and dated March 2, 2006.

(2) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) **PUD.**—The term "PUD" means the Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington.

(4) **WELLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT.**—The term "Wells Hydroelectric Project" means Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2149.

SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC LAND, WELLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

(a) **CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.**—Notwithstanding the land use planning requirements of sections 202 and 203 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1713), and notwithstanding section 24 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 818) and Federal Power Order for Project 2149, and subject to valid existing rights, if not later than 45 days after the date of completion of the appraisal required under subsection (b), the Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington, submits to the Secretary of the Interior an offer to acquire the public land for the appraised value, the Secretary shall convey, not later than 30 days after the date of the offer, to the PUD all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the public land.

(b) **APPRAISAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete an appraisal of the public land. The appraisal shall be conducted in accordance with the "Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions" and the "Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice".

(c) **PAYMENT.**—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the public land is conveyed under this section, the PUD shall pay to the Secretary an amount equal to the appraised value of the public land as determined under subsection (b).

(d) **MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.**—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall finalize legal descriptions of the public land to be conveyed under this section. The Secretary may correct any minor errors in the map referred to in section 2 or in the legal descriptions. The map and legal descriptions shall be on file and available for public inspection in appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(e) **COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.**—As a condition of conveyance, any costs related to the conveyance under this section shall be paid by the PUD.

(f) **DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.**—The Secretary shall deposit the proceeds from the sale in the Federal Land Disposal Account established by section 206 of the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (43 U.S.C. 2305) to be expended to improve access to public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Washington.

SEC. 4. SEGREGATION OF LANDS.

(a) **WITHDRAWAL.**—Except as provided in section 3(a), effective immediately upon enactment of this Act, and subject to valid existing rights, the public land is withdrawn from—

(1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, and all amendments thereto;

(2) location, entry, and patenting under the mining laws, and all amendments thereto; and

(3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral materials, and geothermal leasing laws, and all amendments thereto.

(b) **DURATION.**—This section expires two years after the date of enactment of this Act or on the date of the completion of the conveyance under section 3, whichever is earlier.

SEC. 5. RETAINED AUTHORITY.

The Secretary shall retain the authority to place conditions on the license to insure adequate protection and utilization of the public land granted to the Secretary in section 4(e) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 797(e)) until the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has issued a new license for the Wells Hydroelectric Project, to replace the original license expiring May 31, 2012, consistent with section 15 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 808).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) each will control 20 minutes.